

What is claimed is :

1. A wrist articulation prosthesis, comprising three elements that is to say an element called the "main element", designed to be positioned on the large bone, and element called the "radial element", designed to be positioned on the radius, and an intermediate sliding element, designed to be mounted on the radial element and for being interposed between this radial element and the main element to allow clearance of these elements ; the main element comprises a part forming an articulation side, designed to abut against the large bone, and at least one bone support rod ;

The prosthesis characterized in that :

- The articulation side that delimits the said part of the main element is convex and presents a rounded form, particularly hemispherical or in a portion of a hemisphere, and
- The intermediate element forms a concave articulation side appropriate for cooperating with the convex articulation side that forms the main element, this concave articulation side presenting, in a sectional view in the sagittal plane, that is in the plane in which the flexion and extension movement of the wrist takes place, a rounded circle form very slightly larger than that of the said convex articulation side, and presenting, in sectional view in the frontal plane, that is in the plane in which the abduction and adduction of the hand takes place, a rounded circle form markedly larger than that of the said convex articulation side.

2. The prosthesis according to claim 1, characterized in that the said bone support rod of the main element is laterally offset with relation to the said part forming an articulation side, so that the rod extends, when the main element is positioned on the large bone, along the lateral side of this large bone that is the side of the latter not turned toward the radius or toward the metacarpal bones, this bone support rod presenting a length such that the rod may be inserted in a metacarpal bone in order to ensure the main element is held in place with relation to the large bone.
3. The prosthesis according to claim 2, characterized in that each bone support rod forms an angle on the order of fifteen degrees with the perpendicular to a plane containing the side of the said part forming an articulation side designed to come into contact with the large bone.
4. The prosthesis according to claim 2, characterized in that the main element comprises two bone support rods, wherein one is designed to be inserted in the second metacarpal bone and wherein the other is designed to be inserted in the third metacarpal bone.
5. The prosthesis according to claim 4, characterized in that the rod designed to be inserted in the second metacarpal bone presents a bent form which offsets the rod with relation to the said part forming an articulation side, while the rod designed to be inserted in the third metacarpal bone is rectilinear.
6. The prosthesis according to claim 1, characterized in that the said part of the main element forming an articulation side is hollow at its area designed to come into contact with the large bone, and in that the

part delimits a cavity allowing the engagement of this part on the large bone.

7. A prosthesis according to claim 1, characterized in that the radial element comprises an extremity in the form of a platform abutting against the resected extremity of the radius, this extremity in the form of a platform delimiting a shoulder abutting against the extremity of the radius and a side for mounting the intermediate element.
8. The prosthesis according to claim 1, characterized in that the mounting means that comprise the radial element and the intermediate element for mounting the intermediate element on the radial element comprise a rib in the form of a dovetail and a groove in the form of a dovetail appropriate for being closely engaged on the said rib, the radial element or the intermediate element comprising at least one rib or one projecting boss while, respectively, the intermediate element or the radial element comprises at least one corresponding groove or one cavity appropriate for receiving this rib or this boss with a locking mechanism.
9. The prosthesis according to claim 1, characterized in that the radial element and the intermediate element, as well as the mounting means that comprise this radial element and this intermediate element for mounting the intermediate element on the radial element, have a symmetrical form with relation to their median frontal plane.
10. A set of elements allowing the prosthesis to be built according to claim 1, characterized in that the set comprises a plurality of main elements of different sizes, adapted to the different sizes that may be

presented depending on the articulation bones of the patients to be treated.

11. The set of elements according to claim 10, characterized in that the set comprises a plurality of intermediate elements with different thicknesses, allowing the positioning of the large bone with relation to the radial element to be adjusted in order to obtain an adequate ligament tension.